

Miller & Rhoads

Homefurnishing Section

Store open evenings 'til Xmas, and you will find it most convenient to take advantage of our Club Suppers, 6 to 9 P. M., at 30c.

Shopping early in the evenings will be most satisfactory. The crowds are not so great and the employees are not tired out. Take supper here to-night and finish your Xmas shopping.

Slumber and Auto Robes!

New and welcomed Ideas in Gift-Giving

Inspirations for Xmas giving are found in this great display and sale of Slumber Robes and Auto Robes, third floor.

Beautiful designs from Bonny Scotland, made by the best mills of our own country. We have gathered a most interesting display.

These Robes make excellent gifts—substantial gifts—that are long remembered and appreciated. You will find the prices unusually attractive. Make a gift of a Slumber or Auto Robe, and make your selection to-day.

SLUMBER ROBES, in red, navy, brown, tan and green combined with white, well worth \$2.98, for **\$2.50**

BABY BLANKETS—Baby Crib Blankets—a new stock in white with colored borders **\$2.75**

AUTO ROBES—Fringed Scotch Plaid Auto Robes, some are plain, some solid; two prices, \$6.50 and **\$9.00**

CARRIAGE ROBES—Double Face Plush Robes, in green and black; well worth \$2.75, for **\$2.50**

STEAMER AND AUTO ROBES, fringed and bound effects. McNeil, Mackenzie, Campbell, Frazer, **\$12.50** at \$12.00 and **\$12.50**

STEAMER RUGS, strictly all wool, reversible, in gray, brown and navy, beautifully blended with white. **\$7.50**

Store Open Nights Until Xmas

Rousing Winter Sale of Blankets

Time to Snuggle Into Blankets with this Cold Weather and More to Come

Many purchasers have found out this season that there is no place like Miller & Rhoads when Blankets are to be bought.

In this store Blankets are Blankets, woven from the best materials, entirely free from grease. It is not every store that can sell Blankets like these—at these prices.

This is an occasion that interests every one who has warm bedding to buy. Stocks are also the most complete we ever had. Values are remarkable.

BLANKETS—Two special values, full 10-4 size, solid gray with pink and blue, sold at \$3.00, now **\$2.50**

ALLWOOL BLANKETS—Strictly Sanitary Gray Blankets, double bed size, regular, sold at \$5.00, now **\$4.50**

ALL WOOL BLANKETS, red, strictly all wool; generally sells at \$7.00, **\$6.25** now

\$7.50 White Body Blankets—100%—with blue, pink and red borders, 11-4 size, offered at **\$6.50**

GRAY BLANKETS, extra large, 11-4 sizes. These Blankets well worth \$4.00. Exactly 40 pairs offered at **\$3.50**

RED WOOL BLANKETS—Very Fine 10-4 Red Wool Blankets, well worth \$3.50, **\$2.98** at

WHITE BLANKETS, 10-4, with blue and pink border designs, worth regular \$3.00, now **\$2.50**

Miller & Rhoads

SAUNDERS GETS CITY PRINTING

City Officials Indorse His Rapid Handling of Last Year's Contract.

Contract for all grades of city printing was awarded by the Council Committee on Printing and Claims last night to Clyde W. Saunders, who held the contract last year. He was the lowest of a large number of bidders. Several city officials were present to urge the committee against the award of the printing contract to any small printing house, not properly equipped to handle the work with dispatch. City Clerk August told of the troubles he had with the city contractors in 1927, but said that Mr. Saunders, the contractor for 1928, had been the promptest and most satisfactory printer in his experience.

The contract for advertising and printing city notices, ordinances and resolutions was awarded to the Evening Journal at its bid of 22.2 cents an inch, and to the Daily German Advertiser at 20 cents an inch. The Times-Dispatch bid \$1 an inch. The bids for stationery were referred to a subcommittee for tabulation and report. After the meeting the Everett Wadley Company filed notice with Chairman Davis that it would ask the withdrawal of its bid on tracing cloth, which had been made in error. The question of allowing the withdrawal will be taken up in the subcommittee.

SHORTEST DAY

Yesterday was Only Nine Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes Long. Yesterday, December 21, was the shortest day in the year, and was but nine hours and thirty-two minutes long. As compared to June 22, which is the longest day in the year, there is a great difference, but as compared to the day preceding the difference is not appreciable, being only about a minute.

The sun rose yesterday morning at 7:22 and set at 4:54. On June 22 the sun rose at 4:50 and set at 7:52, the day being fourteen hours and twenty-two minutes long.

FIRE ALARM MEN SLEEP ON DUTY

Force Is Inadequate, Says Chairman, Who Asks for Additional Operator.

Chairman Charles F. Taylor, of the Board of Fire Commissioners, last night appeared before the Finance Committee to urge action on the long pending ordinance providing for an additional operator in the Fire Alarm Department. At present there are only two men, working two-hour shifts, at headquarters, to whom come all calls either over the department's special wires or by telephone. The chairman alluded to the grave danger the city runs in allowing the night operator to sleep on duty. He might be slow in hearing a call, or waking suddenly, might become confused and give the wrong number to the engines responding to the alarm.

In urging the matter Chairman Taylor stated that the great Baltimore fire had been caused by a delay of ten minutes in notifying the department of that city. He said there should be three men, working on eight-hour shifts, as required by statute of train dispatchers and railroad telegraph operators.

Small Fire Loss. In presenting his claim, Chairman Taylor, of the Board of Fire Commissioners, said the annual report of that department, unless there is an unusually large fire before the first of the year, would show the fire loss of the city to have been less than \$100,000, an unprecedented figure.

VIRGINIA ADOPTS INTERSTATE RULES

Uniform Restrictions in Force on Shipments of Explosives.

DATE FOR LITTLE'S DEATH

Respected to February 11—Insurance Companies Unlicensed.

For the purpose of establishing uniform rules governing the shipment of explosives, the State Corporation Commission yesterday adopted and put in force, in Virginia, the rules already formulated by the Interstate Commerce Commission governing interstate shipments of this character.

LITTLE TO DIE FEBRUARY 11

Counsel for Buchanan Murderer Are Preparing an Appeal. Governor Swanson has fixed the date for the execution of Howard Little, whose sentence he resented for February 11, just five weeks from the date of the execution as named by the Circuit Court of Buchanan county. This was done, as stated in yesterday's Times-Dispatch, to give Little's counsel time to prepare in Richmond for an appeal to the Supreme Court. The papers are not yet ready for presentation to the court, and in fact, it is understood that the record is not yet complete.

When a copy of the proceedings in the trial has been made, the exceptions will be passed upon by Judge William E. Burns, the trial jurist.

MEETING NOT POSTPONED

Date for Session of Military Board Was Not Fixed for This Week. The attention of Adjutant-General Charles J. Anderson was yesterday called to a statement in a Norfolk paper of Monday, as follows:

"For unknown reasons, the meeting of the State Military Board, scheduled to be held to-day in Richmond, has been indefinitely deferred. The body was to have considered the various camp sites offered as a rifle range and camp for the Virginia militia."

General Anderson stated that no meeting was ever called for Monday, the only day fixed being December 22, upon which day he is to have a session. Consequently the meeting could not have been "indefinitely deferred."

At one time some suggestion was made by a member of the board of December 20 as a convenient date, but it was not officially adopted as such.

PUBLIC IS WARNED

Bureau of Insurance Thinks of Unlicensed and Doubtful Companies. Insurance companies which cover a large percentage of the capital for the expenses of organization or for stockholders are not looked upon with favor by the Virginia Bureau of Insurance. The department looks into them, and reports upon them. It is unnecessary to say that the bureau has considerable disfavor for concerns which violate the law by soliciting business without having been properly licensed. Of some companies in these two classes the latest bulletin of the bureau has the following to say:

"A representative of the Reliable Life Insurance Company, of Indianapolis, Ind., was recently in Virginia endeavoring to place stock of this company. The representative admits that the cost of placing the stock is not less than 20 per cent. of its selling price."

"American Bankers' Insurance Company, Chicago, Ill.: Par value of stock, \$10; selling price, \$25; allowable cost of promotion, \$7 per share. Representative admits that the probable cost of placing stock on the market will be about 30 per cent. of the sale price."

"United Insurance Company, Chicago, Ill.: Stock salesmen in connection with the promotion of this company reported active in the South. In view of the past record of the promoters, the bureau cannot recommend the stock of this State to invest in the stock of this company."

"The Illinois Commercial Men's Association, Chicago, Ill.: Not licensed. A firm of attorneys of Charlottesville, Va., notified the bureau that they have a claim against this concern, but are unable to locate any of the State upon whom to serve notice. Not being licensed, the company has no statutory agent for the service of process in this State. This is an illustration of the unwisdom of insuring in unlicensed insurance companies."

"The Knights of Agriculture, of Washington, D. C.: White promoters, colored membership. South Carolina Insurance Department recently ordered the arrest of the representatives of this concern. Application for license to do business in Virginia was refused on the first of the year."

"The Keystone Guards, Athens, Pa.: Inquiry has been received relative to the standing of this fraternal beneficiary association. Not licensed to transact business in Virginia."

FLAMES DESTROY "BOSCOBEL" HOME

Damage Caused by Fire in Goodland County Cannot be Replaced.

OWNED BY E. A. SAUNDERS, JR

Family of W. T. Moulton Away When Residence Was Reduced to Ashes.

Within less than twelve hours after he had been informed of a destructive fire on his plantation at "Bucklands," in Charles City county, Edmund A. Saunders, Jr., of this city, received details yesterday morning of a fire which destroyed the residence on his estate, "Boscobel," in Goodland county. The estimated damage from the two fires is \$20,000.

W. T. Moulton, who lives with his family at the Goodland farm, lost all his furniture and personal belongings, including many treasured articles.

"Disasters never come singly," said Mr. Saunders last night, when asked about the Goodland fire. "I received news yesterday morning that a big barn had been burned at 'Bucklands,' and that the contents were entirely consumed. Several valuable horses and many hogs perished. The barn I estimate to be worth \$10,000. I have heard no details from Goodland, but I should say the house was worth at least \$5,000."

The disaster at "Boscobel" occurred about 9 o'clock Monday morning, when one who was in the house except a servant girl, who gave the alarm. Mr. Moulton, who owns and operates a rock quarry, was at work some distance from the house, when the girl rushed up with the news. He and his son Thomas hurried to the scene, but were too late. The fire had gained great headway, and there were no facilities for combating it.

Mrs. Moulton and her younger son, Adkins, came to Richmond less than an hour before the fire started, and did not know anything about it until late Monday afternoon. They were visiting at the home of George W. Stevens, when a telegram came from Mr. Moulton, bringing the first word of the loss. Mr. Stevens's automobile, carrying Miss Helen Stevens, Miss Mary Moulton, Mrs. Moulton, George W. Stevens, Jr., and Adkins, was driven to the scene, eighteen miles away, but before the party arrived the house was in ashes.

"The destruction was complete," said George W. Stevens, Jr., in telling of the fire last night. "Not even a chimney was left to show where the house stood, and nothing, not even the smallest piece of furniture, was recovered. It is hoped that some articles of jewelry may be found in the ashes, but this is improbable."

The embers are still too hot for any search to be made. The servant has no idea how the blaze originated, and the only solution is a defective flue. Mr. Moulton does not make any estimate of his loss, but says there were many things among his belongings which he treasured as family keepsakes, and of course cannot be replaced.

Will Rebuild "Boscobel." Mr. Moulton formerly lived in Richmond, and was engaged in business there. The fire destroyed his home at "Boscobel," on South Fourteenth street, for a number of years. He is a brother-in-law of Thomas Adkins, of this city, and has many relatives living here. The "Boscobel" estate is one of the handsomest on the upper James River and has been owned by the Saunders family for a number of years. The building destroyed was a two-story frame structure, built in Colonial style.

Edmund A. Saunders, 34, has charge of the farm, and has been the origin of the fire there is also a mystery. Mr. Saunders stated last night that the house at "Boscobel" will be rebuilt, but it is probable that it will not be replaced until next spring.

Rule Is Dismissed. The rule issued by the State Corporation Commission against the Bliss Silk Throwing Company, when it came up yesterday, was dismissed at the cost of the defendant. The company is a foreign corporation, and the contention was that it was doing business in the State without having taken out the proper license. It has now complied with the law by the payment of the fees.

Mr. Kolner Makes Speech. Commissioner of Agriculture George W. Kolner was a guest yesterday at the agricultural session of the Chamber of Commerce of Newport News, and delivered an address on "Truckling on the Virginia Peninsula."

Handsomeness Gift to High School. Mrs. Sinton Presents Twenty-six Pictures for Proposed Library.

The City School Board was notified last night of the presentation to the John Marshall High School by Mrs. Samuel Sinton of twenty-six handsome pictures to be hung in the High School Library. The pictures were once the property of Richard Sinton, who was well known as a collector of rare books and pictures.

S. T. Beveridge, a member of the graduating class of the High School, has proposed to the board a movement on the part of the alumni and alumnae to secure a library for the new building. His plan includes the collection of voluntary contributions from the graduates of the school, to the amount of \$3,500. A special meeting of the board was held last night for the purpose of approving the plan, so that the teachers and employees may be paid before Christmas. All the schools of the city will be closed for the holidays at the end of the school session to-morrow, and will reopen on Monday morning, January 3.

Superintendent Chandler reported an enrollment in all the schools of 14,105, an increase over last year of 253 pupils.

TRUSTEES APPROVE BATTLE ABBEY SITE

Confederate Memorial Association Accepts City's Offer.

CALL FOR DESIGNS SHORTLY

Will Erect Building as Soon as Condemnation Proceedings Are Concluded.

Final approval was given to the triangle site for the Confederate Memorial Institute, or "Battle Abbey," yesterday by the executive committee of the Confederate Memorial Association, which met in the office of Lieutenant-Governor J. Taylor Ellison in the Mutual Building. There were present General Robert White, of Wheeling, W. Va., chairman of the executive committee; Colonel Thomas S. Kenan, of North Carolina; Colonel J. M. Hickey, of Washington, D. C.; Judge George L. Christian and Lieutenant-Governor J. Taylor Ellison.

The committee went out Monument Avenue and inspected the triangle, located at the intersection of that thoroughfare, Cleveland and Franklin Streets, about one-half way between the Boulevard and the Rossin Road, and was unanimous in its expressions of approval. No action was taken looking to the selection of the design pending the acquisition of the triangle by the city through condemnation proceedings.

Committee Authorized to Act.

The Confederate Memorial Association, the trustees of which hold the funds for the erection of the Battle Abbey, is made up of one member from each State or Territory which furnished troops to the Confederate Army, with one additional member from the city of Richmond. The association has delegated to the executive committee broad powers in the selection of a site and of plans and contracts for the construction of the building, which will now be pushed vigorously. The action of the trustees yesterday in approving the location chosen by the city puts an end to the talk of petitioning the State to allow the erection of the Abbey in the Soldiers' Home grounds, the executive committee having full authority to accept the city's offer.

SUIT OVER DOG

Court Gives Judgment for \$5 in Case of Alley vs. Lucas.

Judgment for \$5 was entered yesterday morning in the Henrico county Magistrate's Court against Percy Lucas in favor of Floyd Alley in a civil suit involving the ownership of a bound pup. The decision was not altogether satisfactory to Lucas, but after the matter had gone through the many ramifications that generally accompany dog litigation, he decided to accept the judgment, although he considered the pup worth more money.

Both sides in the case showed up for the trial. The pup, which was not delivered as soon as the latter thought it ought to have been, he decided to take with him, and went over to the Lucas kennels, where, instead of taking one, he left it, it was alleged, with the choice of the dog. The pup was turned in at night, and when Lucas found it out on the following morning the warrant was sworn out.

MANY WILL ATTEND

Reception and Supper at Jefferson to Boost Embassy Plan.

Nearly 500 acceptances have been received for the reception and supper to be given by the Chamber of Commerce at the Jefferson Hotel to-morrow night in behalf of the American Embassy Association. The affair is being held in the South a movement by the association to induce the government to purchase and maintain its own headquarters in foreign capitals.

Speeches will be made by E. Clarence Jones, president, and Frederick Townsend Martin, vice-president, of the American Embassy Association; Governor Claude A. Swanson, Mayor D. C. Richardson, Governor-Elect William Hodges Mann and President F. D. Williams, of the Chamber of Commerce.

Police Court Cases. Charles Wilson and John Bidden, colored, charged with stealing a ham from J. D. Kennedy, had their case continued yesterday morning to January 1.

The case of Ananias Bassett, colored, charged with feloniously assaulting Morton Brown, was continued to December 23.

Alexander Valentine, colored, charged with being disorderly at 314 East Clay Street Monday night, was fined \$10, and Lucy Fauntleroy, with whom he had a disagreement, was dismissed.

Richmond Man Advantaged. J. Sutton Jones for several years connected with the contract department of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, located in this city, has been appointed to take charge of the company's office in Fredericksburg. He will manage the exchange in that city, and have supervision of the contracts for connections in several surrounding counties.

Our Superior Stock

Offers superior facilities for Christmas shopping. Everything desirable in Men's and Boys' wearing apparel.

Gans-Rady Company

MANY OFFICIALS TO INSPECT NEW FLUME

Final Tests Made by Engineers Yesterday Preproatory to Turning on Clear Water--Councilmen and Citizens to View Work

Clear water will be delivered from the settling basin to the distributing reservoir to-morrow morning, according to Engineer J. A. Johnston, who has had charge of the construction of the new concrete flume. Engineer Johnston, with Inspector Bailey and Engineer Tuttle, representing the Piedmont Construction Company, yesterday went through the great five-foot conduit which stretches down the river for nearly a mile, connecting the clear water basins with the pumping station. The interior surface was examined with critical care and approved.

To-day water will be passed through the completed tube to wash it out, and the final touches will be given to the job, which on last Sunday stood successful tests in the presence of engineers.

Inspect Work To-Morrow.

The Committee on Water, with a number of city officials and prominent citizens, will inspect the new water plant in full operation to-morrow afternoon. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway has agreed to furnish a special train, on which the party will leave from Main Street Station at 2 o'clock. Going up the river, the train will pass the Old Pump-House, the site on which is now being erected the municipal electric plant, and which marks the first municipal water-pumping station in Richmond.

Passing on by the New Pump-House, where auxiliary electric pumps have recently been installed, the train on the James River Division of the Chesapeake and Ohio will follow the line of the flume as it winds up the river to the settling basins, where an inspection will be made of the entire works.

President Stevens and General Manager Doyle, of the Chesapeake and Ohio, have accepted invitations to accompany the party, as the ultimate plan calls for the shifting of the tracks of the Chesapeake and Ohio to the outer side of the basins, a work on which engineers are already engaged, and which will tend greatly to the safety of the city's plant.

Tests Proved Satisfactory.

Superintendent Davis, of the Water Department, said last night that his plans materialized, the trip would be rather in the nature of an inspection of a completed work than of a test. The tests have been made of the flume from time to time, as it has been constructed, under supervision of Engineer Johnston. That of Sunday, when the water was drawn from the feeder back of the Pump-House, showed that the completed work would stand a strain greater than will ever be placed upon it.

While the new flume has been built on plans furnished by the contractors, the Piedmont Construction Company, of Atlanta, adopted after examination by a board of engineers, consisting of City Engineer Bolling, Building Inspector Beck and Consulting Engineer Johnston, yet the idea is the same as that advanced by City Engineer Bolling in his original designs. To avoid any element of chance the reinforcement was strengthened and every precaution has been taken this time by the engineer and inspectors in charge to see that the concrete was properly mixed and poured.

Must Empty Reservoirs.

While it is expected that pumping of clear water will begin to-morrow morning, and that it will be in full operation when the officials arrive for their inspection, Superintendent Davis calls attention to the fact that since the two reservoirs hold a supply sufficient for four or five days, it will be a day or two before there will be a noticeable clearing of the water drawn from the hydrants. If all goes as planned, by Christmas Day citizens

should get water as clear as that received under the best conditions in the river, in sharp contrast with the mud of the last few days.

Within a week water-takers should be receiving a clearer and purer article than the city has ever before delivered—not only clear and healthy, but free from impurities which have for years poured into the canal through Westhampton and Tuckahoe Creeks.

Chairman Mills's Statement.

"I regard the completion of a clear water system as the greatest step in advancing the city of Richmond and favor made," said Chairman Morgan R. Mills, of the Water Committee, yesterday. "The mud has been for a generation the city's greatest handicap. It is City Engineer Bolling's scheme. For years he recommended to the Council that some action be taken for the construction of a sedimentation plant to clear James River water. Finally, in 1922, I think it was, a subcommittee of three—James R. Gordon, Charles R. Winston and myself—was named to confer with Mr. Bolling and report. We heard Mr. Bolling's plan for sedimentation and coagulating basins. Chief Health Officer Levy, then the chemist of the Water Department, showed the results of his experiments on a small scale for the precipitation of mud and the purification of the water by the use of alum."

"Finally, we submitted the whole scheme to Dr. John Mallet, professor of chemistry at the University of Virginia, an eminent authority on river water supplies, who had been called in for consultation by the United States government and by foreign countries."

Many Invited to Inspection.

Invitations have been forwarded to the following persons to be present at the final inspection of the new water system in full operation to-morrow afternoon:

Council Committee on Water, in charge of the works; Superintendent Eugene E. Davis, Assistant Superintendent William Lawton, Superintendent of Pumping Station Alexander Delaney, Chemist and Laboratory Director at Settling Basin, Edwin E. Ezekiel; City Engineer Bolling, designer of the settling basin and past-president of the American Water Works Association; Mayor D. C. Richardson, President J. B. Wood, of the Board of Aldermen; President R. L. Peters, of the Common Council; Chairman H. R. Pollard, Jr., of the Council Committee on Finance; Chairman W. H. Adams, of the Council Committee on Public Works; Chief Engineer Whitte, of the Council Committee on Grounds and Buildings; Building Inspector H. P. Beck, a member of the Water Committee when the original flume contract was awarded, and a member of the board of engineers which passed on the plans for the new flume; Supervising Engineer J. A. Johnston, who has had charge of the construction of the new flume for the city; City Attorney Henry R. Pollard; and the members of the special committee which investigated the failure of the former flume—Gilbert K. Pollock, P. Davis, John J. Lynch, Robert Whitte and E. Douglas Richardson; members of the former Water Committee, which awarded the settling basin contract, including W. H. Zimmerman, John Mann, Jr., George E. Wise, Barton H. Grundy, James R. Gordon, General Charles J. Anderson and Charles R. Winston; City Clerk Ben T. August, Committee Clerk Alfred H. McDowell, Special Agent in Charge George S. Crenshaw, President F. D. Williams, of the Chamber of Commerce; Secretary Dunlop, of the Chamber of Commerce; Business Manager William T. Dabney, of the Chamber of Commerce; president of the Association of Retail Merchants' Association, president and secretary of the Business Men's Club, president and secretary of the Builders' Exchange of Richmond; Chief Health Officer E. C. Levy, who made the bacteriological tests for the water committee previously to the adoption of the settling basin plans; W. P. Knowles, Superintendent of the Gas Works; President Charles F. Taylor, of the Board of Fire Commissioners; former President John H. Frisckorn, of the Fire Board; H. W. Tanner, Jr., engineer in charge of the construction of the test section of flume which demonstrated the correctness of the original designs; C. J. Roelker, concrete expert and associate with Consulting Engineer M. J. Sheppard, of Newark, N. J., who advised the Water Committee as to the causes of failure of the old flume, and Engineers F. W. Scarborough, P. I. Cabell and P. B. Isaacs, members of the board which made an examination of the basins and reported favorably on their condition some time ago.

To Give Away Flour. Six hundred 12-pound bags of flour will be distributed to the deserving poor of Richmond by the Home Furnishing Company and its employees on Christmas morning.

This is the fifth year that this donation has been made to the poor of this city by Mr. Jonesoff and his staff. The bags of flour are given to both white and colored people who call at the offices of the company, 219 West Broad, between 11 o'clock and 1:30 and 1:30 on Christmas morning.

There's a Reason Why You Should Shop Here

Especially now for those Xmas Gifts.

When it's bought here, you know every department store in town is not showing the same thing—styles that are confined to us.

Reason number two is our prices are not one cent more, if as much as others ask for inferior merchandise.

For the remainder of week:

\$7.00 and \$8.00 Bath Robes.....\$5.95

\$6.50 and \$6.00 Smoking Jackets.....\$4.95

Combination Sets of 14-karat Gold Scarf Pin and Cuff Buttons to match; a \$5.00 value, at \$3.00.

Handsome Sterling or Gold Umbrellas, there isn't a jeweler in town that has a finer assortment; \$15, \$10, \$7.50, and \$5.00.

For Him—We offer you the choice of our \$20 Suits and Overcoats at \$13.75. Just for this week.

Jacobs & Levy.